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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5471
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RUCPDOG/USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUYNAAAC/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA PRIORITY
RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
RHHMHBA/COMPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI//N541// PRIORITY
RHMFIUU/HQ PACAF HICKAM AFB HI//CC/PA// PRIORITY
RUHBANB/OKINAWA FLD OFC US FORCES JAPAN CP BUTLER JA PRIORITY
RHMFIUU/COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA AB JA PRIORITY
INFO RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 7699
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 1024
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 3803
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 1198
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 9933
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 1634
RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC

UNCLAS TOKYO 004691

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STATE FOR I/RF, PA/PR/FPC/W, IIP/G/EA, EAP/PD, R/MR,
EAP/J, EAP/P, PM;
USTR FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE;
TREASURY FOR OASIA/IMI;
SECDEF FOR OASD/PA;
CP BUTLER OKINAWA FOR AREA FIELD OFFICE;
PACOM HONOLULU FOR PUBLIC DIPLOMACY ADVISOR

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SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION Q LEBANON - TOKYO

LEAD STORIES: Top stories on Thursday morning papers include follow-ups on Russia's seizure of a Japanese trawler in waters near the Northern Territories on Wednesday, including a GOJ demand that Moscow apologize for the shooting death of a Japanese fisherman and immediately return the victim's body and the other detained crewmembers.

11. "Ceasefire Must Not be Reversed" The liberal Tokyo Shimbun editorialized (8/17): "In order to implement the ceasefire between Israel and Hezbollah, a 15,000-strong Lebanese Army unit and a similar-sized UN force must be quickly deployed in southern Lebanon.... With the warring parties still squaring off, monitoring a pullout and ceasefire will not be an easy task. There are concerns that the Lebanese forces lack the ability to keep the peace. There must be an orderly command structure integrating them with the UN forces in order to prevent the exchange of fire between Israel and Hezbollah. Once a ceasefire is firmly in place, Hezbollah should release the Israeli soldiers it holds, while Israel should free the Arab youths and Hezbollah fighters it holds. Israel should also withdraw its occupation force from the farmlands on the Golan Heights.

12. "If this peace process proceeds with support from the international community, it should be possible to disarm Hezbollah and absorb its forces into the Lebanese Army. The important question is whether the pro-Israel US can change its policy and engage in dialogue with Syria and Iran, which support Hezbollah. A solution to the Palestinian issue is key to making the ceasefire in Lebanon a lasting one. As long as Israel and the US engage in a 'display of force' by fighting with Lebanon while at the same time conducting attacks in the Gaza

Strip, the people of the Middle East will turn to armed extremists, and the chance for peace will slip away."

SCHIEFFER